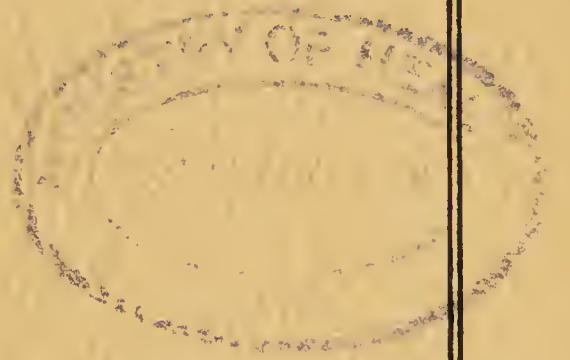


TURTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



Annual Reports

of the

Medical Officer of Health

(James Cumming, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.)

and

Sanitary Officer

(Walter L. Wardle, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., MR.I.P.H.H.)

FOR THE YEAR 1949

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health, 1949.

COUNCIL OFFICES,

BROMLEY CROSS,

NEAR BOLTON.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF TURTON.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting herewith my Annual Report for the year 1949.

The general health of the community is satisfactory. The incidence of infectious disease was lower than 1948. Measles accounted for 62 of the 94 cases notified. The number of other infectious diseases notified, including tuberculosis, remains gratifyingly small.

The adjusted Birth rate of 14.6 per thousand is lower than last year's figure and lower than the rate for England and Wales which was 16.7.

The adjusted Death rate of 11.7 per thousand of the estimated population is lower than that of last year's. The figure for England and Wales is also 11.7. The greatest number of deaths were attributed to circulatory diseases in people of advanced age.

Infantile Mortality again showed a decrease from 18 to 13 per thousand live births. The figure is well below that for England and Wales which is 32.

There was one death recorded from maternal causes.

The undoubted success of the Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign as a health measure for the saving of child life is remarkable. There were only two cases notified in 1949, neither of whom had previously been immunised against diphtheria, and only one death has occurred from this disease in the past five years.

For some years past the tendency has been unmistakable for the county districts to be deprived of services for which they were responsible, and it now appears to be inevitable in any new legislation to transfer these functions to some central or county body. In my view this tendency is one which is to be deplored as it does not necessarily follow that larger bodies, having larger costs results in a more efficient service. The control tends to become more remote and impersonal and reduces the scope for local initiative and activity.

In conclusion I have pleasure in thanking the Committee for their continued interest in public health affairs, and to Mr. W. L. Wardle and his staff for the amount of work carried out during the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

JAMES CUMMING,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The District covers an area of 17,335 acres.

The population was, according to the census of 1931, returned as 11,847, and the last Registrar General's estimate of the resident population was 10,970 (exclusive of evacuees).

The number of Inhabited houses at the end of 1949 was 3,787.

The Rateable Value was £77,097, and a penny rate yields a sum of £304.

The social conditions and standard of living are equal to the average of a mainly artisan or working class population.

EMPLOYMENT.

The chief employment is in Textile Manufacture, Bleachworks, Dyeworks and Stone Quarries, Paintworks, Saw Mills and Farming.

Men employed at the Stone Quarries are subject to Silicosis. They undergo a medical examination periodically by Government Inspectors, and they get compensation if they are found to be suffering from Silicosis.

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	Total.	M.	F.		
Legitimate ...	154 ...	75 ...	79	Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, mid-1949	14.6
Illegitimate ...	6 ...	2 ...	4		
	—	—	—		
Total ...	160 ...	77 ...	83		
	—	—	—		
Stillbirths	4 ...	1 ...	3	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	24
Deaths	144 ...	74 ...	70	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population—	
				Crude	13.1
				Adjusted	11.7

Deaths from puerperal causes—

	Deaths.	Death Rate per 1000 Total (live and still) Births
Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Maternal causes	1	6.10
	—	—
Total Maternal Mortality	1	6.10
	—	—

Death rate of Infants under one year of age—

All infants per 1,000 live births	13
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	13
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

Deaths from certain Specified Diseases—

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	27
„ „ Measles (all ages)	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

	PER 1000 OF ESTIMATED POPULATION				Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under One Year per 1000 Live Births
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1000 Live Births	Per 1000 Total Live and Still Births	
Population—							
For birth-rate	}	10,970					
For death-rates							
Mean of 5 years—							
1944-1948	15.2 ...	14.4 ...	0.28 ...	1.77 ...	1.23 ...	1.20 ...	35
Year—1948	15.0 ...	12.7 ...	0.36 ...	1.55 ...	Nil ...	Nil ...	18
1949	14.6 ...	13.1*...	0.18 ...	2.46 ...	6.25 ...	6.10 ...	13
Increase or decrease in 1949 on 5 years' average, 1944-1948...	−0.6 ...	−1.3 ...	−0.10 ...	+0.69 ...	+5.02 ...	+4.90 ...	−22
Previous year	−0.4 ...	+0.4 ...	−0.18 ...	+0.91 ...	+6.25 ...	+6.10 ...	−5
* 1949 adjusted death rate (comparability factor, 0.89) =11.7 per 1,000.							

CAUSE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS.

The following table shews the causes and sex distribution of deaths of Turton residents. This information does not include non-civilian deaths.

Cause of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	0	0	0
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	0	0	0
3. Scarlet fever	0	0	0
4. Whooping cough	0	0	0
5. Diphtheria	0	0	0
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	1	2
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	0	0	0
8. Syphilitic diseases	0	0	0
9. Influenza	1	0	1
10. Measles	0	0	0
11. Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	0	0	0
12. Acute infective encephalitis	0	0	0
13. Cancer of buccal cavity, and œsophagus (M.) uterus (F.)	1	1	2
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	1	2	3
15. Cancer of breast	0	5	5
16. Cancer of all other sites	12	5	17
17. Diabetes	1	0	1
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	7	12	19
19. Heart disease	18	13	31
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	0	6	6
21. Bronchitis	14	7	21
22. Pneumonia	3	2	5
23. Other respiratory diseases	1	1	2
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	3	0	3
25. Diarrhœa under two years	0	0	0
26. Appendicitis	1	0	1
27. Other digestive diseases	1	1	2
28. Nephritis	1	2	3
29. Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	0	0	0
30. Other maternal causes	0	1	1

	Cause of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total.
31.	Premature birth	0	0	0
32.	Congenital malformation, birth injuries, etc.	1	1	2
33.	Suicide	0	1	1
34.	Road traffic accidents	0	0	0
35.	Other violent causes	1	1	2
36.	All other causes	6	8	14
		—	—	—
	Totals	74	70	144
		—	—	—

General Provision of Health Services in Turton.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

These facilities are available at the following—

Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

Public Health Pathological Department, Royal Infirmary, Preston.

The Laboratory, Bury Infirmary.

Melling and Ardern, Analytical Chemists, Hr. Broughton, nr. Manchester.

Sputum examinations for Tuberculosis are still carried out by the Lancashire County Council under the Tuberculosis scheme.

The following specimens were examined during the year—

	Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.	Preston Laboratory.	Melling and Ardern.
Diphtheria Swabs—Throat ...	2	0	0
Nose	0	0	0
Sputum	0	0	0
Milk for T.B.	0	26	0
Water—Bacteriological	0	0	2
Chemical	0	0	2

AMBULANCE SERVICES.

These services are now provided under the National Health Service Act, 1946, by the local Health Authority (in this case the Lancashire County Council), who have made arrangements with the Bolton Corporation to serve the district.

The service will provide for the following types of cases:—

- (a) Emergency Services.—That is to say persons meeting with accidents or suffering from sudden illness wherever this may take place, and maternity patients.

- (b) Non-urgent Cases who require transport to Hospital or from one hospital to another or to out-patient departments and clinics, or from Hospital to their homes and cases of a similar nature.
- (c) Infectious Cases.—The ambulance service will convey to and from hospitals all patients suffering from infectious disease.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

From the 4th July, 1948, the Hospitals were transferred to the control of the Minister of Health through Regional Hospital Boards. All Hospitals will therefore, be available for the use of the district.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Cases of Tuberculosis are admitted to various sanatoriums under the Regional Hospital Board. This scheme is administered by that Board and the Lancashire County Council; and a close liaison is maintained between the Tuberculosis Officer and the Department.

Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1949 (after correction subsequently made either by the notifying medical practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospital). The table also includes particulars of Turton cases removed to Hospital, and mortality.

Disease	Cases		Notified and Accepted.									Total Deaths	Hospital	
	Total Cases at all Ages.	Years.											Total Cases removed to Hospital from district	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district
		Un-der 1	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	over 65			
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	19	...	...	3	9	5	...	2	...	...	...	...	10	...
Diphtheria, includ'g Membranous Cr'p	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...
Enteric Fever (incl'd. Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles (excl'd. Ger- man Measles)	62	...	24	12	19	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	10	...	2	4	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	6	6
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio- encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Malaria— Contracted in: This Country ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abroad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	94	0	26	19	32	13	...	3	...	1	...	10	18	6

The following table gives the comparative incidence of Infectious Diseases during the past five years—

Disease.	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
Scarlet Fever	9	18	16	34	19
Diphtheria	7	2	3	3	2
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	88	7	105	149	62
Whooping Cough	22	31	19	16	10
Acute Pneumonia	4	9	6	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis....	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	...	...	...	...
Acute Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	2	2	2	2	1
Total	133	69	151	204	94

Notified cases of Infectious Diseases during the year. Wards—

Disease.	Belmont.	Egerton.	Eagley.	Bromley Cross.	Bradshaw.	Edgworth.	Chapel- town.	Total.
Scarlet Fever.	3	5	3	2	6	..	..	19
Diphtheria	0	1	..	..	..	1	..	2
Measles	2	..	1	7	2	45	5	62
Whooping C..	..	..	1	2	6	1	..	10
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Tuberculosis:								
Pulmonary.	..	..	..	1	2	3	..	6
N.-pulm'n'y	1	..	..	1	1	2	..	5
Total	6	6	5	13	18	52	5	105

DIPHTHERIA.

There were two notified cases during the year, which occurred in the following Wards—Egerton, 1. Edgworth, 1.

One of the patients was an adult (female), aged 28 years. The other was a male aged 9 years. Neither had been immunised against diphtheria.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The Scheme for immunising children up to 15 years is being vigorously proceeded with, and under it the following children have been treated either at the various Schools, at the Council Offices, or at my Surgery, and in this connection I appreciate very much the co-operation given by Headmasters and Teachers in the Area, in making the scheme known, which has resulted in Turtons' percentage of children immunised comparing favourably with any other district.

During the year the following children were immunised with A.P.T.—

Under 5 years.

Between 5 and 15 years.

92

57

In addition eight booster injections were given.

Approximate estimated number of children in the Area at June, 1949, by Registrar-General—

Under 5 years.
866

Between 5 and 15 years.
1505

Since the inception of the scheme, the ages of children have increased and on the attaining of 15 years have been taken out of the figures here presented. The remaining children's records have all been stepped up in age, and the following result has been attained at the end of 1949 of children protected—

Under 5 years.
296 or 34.2%

Between 5 and 15 years.
1113 or 73.9%

These figures are very satisfactory and the total number of children of pre-school age immunised again shews an increase over those of the previous year. A higher percentage still is most desirable, and I hope that it may be attained by making the scheme and its benefits more widely known by advertising in every possible way and with the help of the Clinics and the Health Visitor.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The new cases and mortality were as follows—

Age Period.	NEW CASES.						DEATHS.					
	Respira-			Non-			Respira-			Non-		
	M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.	
0-1	0	0	.....	0	0	.....	0	0	.....	0	0	
1-5	0	0	.....	0	0	.....	0	0	.....	0	0	
5-10	0	0	.....	1	1	.....	0	0	.....	0	0	
10-15	0	0	.....	1	0	.....	0	0	.....	0	0	
15-20	0	0	.....	0	1	.....	0	0	.....	0	0	
20-25	0	1	.....	0	0	.....	0	0	.....	0	0	
25-35	2	0	.....	1	0	.....	0	0	.....	0	0	
35-45	1	0	.....	0	0	.....	0	0	.....	0	0	
45-55	0	0	.....	0	0	.....	0	1	.....	0	0	
55-65	1	0	.....	0	0	.....	1	0	.....	0	0	
65 and upwards ...	1	0	.....	0	0	.....	1	0	.....	0	0	
	5	1	.....	3	2	.....	2	1	.....	0	0	
	6			5			3			0		

All cases of Tuberculosis are visited. The houses and premises are inspected, the social and domiciliary conditions investigated and auxiliary assistance is given when necessary. Insanitary conditions are remedied if found.

The houses are fumigated when it is required and all necessary measures are taken in order to prevent the spreading of infection.

Pathological specimens which require Bacteriological examination are sent to the University of Manchester, Department of Bacteriology and Preventive Medicine.

The general health services available for the district, after the 5th July, 1948, are:—

Maternity and Child Welfare:	Health Centre, Chapeltown Road, Bromley Cross. TUESDAY 2 p.m.—4 p.m. Walsh's Institute, Harwood. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in month. 2 p.m.—4 p.m.
Minor Ailments Clinic:	Health Centre, Chapeltown Road, Bromley Cross. TUESDAY 10 a.m.—12 noon.
Ophthalmic Session:	Health Centre, Chapeltown Road, Bromley Cross. 3rd Wednesday each month. 2 p.m.—4 p.m.
Orthopædic:	The Mount, Station Road, Kearsley (by appointment).
Dental:	Health Centre, Chapeltown Road, Bromley Cross. THURSDAY 10 a.m.—4 p.m.
Tuberculosis:	The Dispensary, 20, Railway Road, Darwen. Health Visitor (Tuberculosis) Miss M. Sheridan, 9, Crompton Place, DARWEN.
Hospital Services:—	
1 General:	Bolton Royal Infirmary, Bolton. Tel. No.: Bolton 5250. Townleys Hospital, Farnworth. Tel. No.: Bolton 5890.
2 Infectious Diseases:	Hulton Lane Isolation Hospital. Tel. No.: Bolton 3803. Florence Nightingale Hospital, Bury. Tel. No.: Bury 116.
3. Maternity:	Townleys Hospital, Farnworth. Tel. No.: Bolton 5890. Haslam Maternity Home, Chorley New Road, Bolton. Tel. No.: Bolton 487. Havercroft Maternity Home, Victoria Road, Bolton. Tel. No.: Bolton 268. Heaton Grange Maternity Home, Chorley New Road, Bolton. Tel. No.: Bolton 3431.

Procedure for booking Maternity accommodation is as follows:

Townleys Hospital:	For persons not resident in Bolton, application must be made through the Divisional Health Offices, Leigh Road, Leigh.
Maternity Homes:	Application must be made to the Sister-in-charge of the Home to which admission is desired, between the hours of 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., Mondays to Fridays.
Out-Patient Clinics:—	
General:	Bolton Royal Infirmary—New Patients must have a note from their Medical Attendant and prior appointments must be made through the Appointments Office (Bolton 6789). (9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays to Fridays; 9 a.m. to 12 noon Saturdays.)
Tuberculosis:	Civic Centre, Bolton.—Mondays to Fridays, 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon. (New patients must have a note from their Medical Attendant.)
Venereal Diseases Clinic:	Civic Centre, Bolton.—MALES 10-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. each week-day; 4-30 p.m. to 7-30 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. FEMALES: Tuesdays, Thursday and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 12 noon; Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Emergencies:	Casualty Department, Bolton Royal Infirmary.

Ambulances :	To obtain an ambulance ring BOLTON 3101 (Ambulance Station, Black Horse Street, Bolton.)
Midwives:	Mrs G. Whittle, 262, Turton Road, Bradshaw. (Tel. No. Eagley 428). Miss B. Grimshaw, 196, Scobell Street, Walshaw, near Bury. (Relief).
District Nurses:	Miss E. Ainsworth, 462, Darwen Road, Bromley Cross. Miss M. Smith, 121, High Street, Belmont. Mrs. M. Oley, 27, Oaks Avenue, Bradshaw.
Health Visitor and School Nurse:	Nurse A. Lynch, 2, St. Bede's Avenue, Bolton.
Home and Domestic Helps:	The Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh; or Health Department, Council Offices, Bromley Cross.
Registrar of Births and Deaths:	Council Offices, Bromley Cross. HOURS OF ATTENDANCE: Monday, Wednesday and Saturday—10-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m. Thursday afternoon—3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Vaccination:	Patients own Doctor or Medical Officer of Health at the Council Offices, Bromley Cross—WEDNESDAYS: 11-30 a.m. to 12 noon.
Diphtheria Immunisation:	Patients own Doctor or Medical Officer of Health, Health Department, Council Offices, Bromley Cross. WEDNESDAYS: 11-30 a.m. to 12 noon.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Sanitary Inspector, 1949,

COUNCIL OFFICES,
BROMLEY CROSS,
NEAR BOLTON.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF TURTON.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1949.

During the year under review there was no diminishing in the spate of new legislation placed upon the statute books.

The majority of health department problems dealt with from day to day are those concerned with Housing—i.e., the lack of adequate and reasonable housing accommodation. If reports were to be given on the unhappiness, hardship and misery caused by the above, it would make sorry reading.

The repair of the existing house in the wording of the Housing Acts—"at a reasonable expense", is one which raises vast problems, especially in view of the 1946 "report on the standards of fitness for habitation—Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee". Regarding this problem it is generally recognised that the present rent levels are too low and that an injustice is being done against many property owners, as costs of labour and materials, have more than trebled.

Due to a reluctance in doing repairs voluntarily (because of costs) many owners now await a notice from the Health Department, which greatly increases that department's work.

The Housing Act, 1949, envisages the spending of fairly large sums on the reconditioning of property, and (subject to certain conditions of securing the money) allows local authorities to advance money on loan to persons wishing to carry out improvements.

The Cleansing and Salvage Services have suffered during the year due to labour difficulties, and thanks are due to those employees who have worked through all weathers to keep the service going. At the time of writing the introduction of a new wagon together with the use of a smaller number of men to each wagon, has greatly helped to reduce the time lag in the emptying of refuse receptacles.

A final comment I would make is that of the definite tendency to split the concept of an autonomous local authority into segments, each under a different government department, which can only create a high number of central authorities, each endeavouring to gain the supervision of the local services.

The report is again condensed and contains a brief record of the activities of the Department.

I respectfully offer my apologies for the lateness of the report which is due to circumstances beyond my control.

In conclusion I would tender my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their unfailing support and kind consideration, and to the Officials who have given me their willing co-operation at all times.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER L. WARDLE,

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Water Supply is mainly secured from the Bolton Corporation Waterworks. It is of good quality, is a constant supply and is sufficient in quantity for the parts of the District where the supply reaches.

There is occasional liability to lead solvency, due to the peaty character of the gathering ground. Samples are periodically submitted for analysis, and every possible precautionary method is adopted by the Bolton Corporation to maintain its purity.

The number of dwellings supplied from the public mains direct to the house is 3,314.

Fifteen houses in the Bradshaw District get their water from the Irwell Valley Water Board as they are situated near the Bury water mains.

The remainder are, at the moment, obliged to obtain their supply from shallow wells and springs. Some of these supplies, regarding quality and quantity, are good, but the majority are poor, and in the case of the Higher Bradshaw area in urgent need of replacing by town's mains; and it is regettable to note that at the time of writing the Ministry has not yet sancioned the scheme to be proceeded with.

SAMPLING. (WATER.)

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL.

Samples were obtained for analysis and examination from private water supplies used for potable purposes at two premises in the district.

Both of the supplies were found to be unsatisfactory. One sample was found to contain a potentially dangerous amount of toxic metal, and contained B. Coli. The second sample was of border-line quality.

The second supply was subsequently considerably improved; the first supply is being abandoned and town's water laid on to the premises.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The sewage from the Eagley and Egerton Wards is conveyed to the Eagley Sewage Works. These works were reconstructed and converted to the " Simplex " surface aeration activated sludge system in 1924 at a cost of £10,975. The works has a capacity of 120,000 gallons normal dry weather flow per day.

The sewage from Belmont Ward is conveyed to the Belmont Sewage Works, and treated by septic tanks and cinder filtration. These works are over 50 years old and require a major overhaul. The works are normally capable of treating 21,469 gallons per day, the approximate yearly flow being 13 million gallons.

Routine inspection, testing, repair and reconstruction of the drainage and sewerage within the district continues to be done.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The Sanitary accommodation at the end of the year, so far as can be reasonably ascertained, consists of—

2,678 Fresh Water Closets.
1,324 Waste Water Closets.
501 Dry Ashpits.
80 Cesspools.

302 Earth or Pail Closets.
2,632 Galvanised Ashbins.
230 Privy Middens.

Many of the above Cesspools are badly constructed and insanitary; efforts are being made to eradicate these and provide properly constructed septic tanks and filters.

The following is a list of the Conversions and Installations carried out during the year—

	During 1949.	During 1944-48.
Privy Closets to Fresh Water Closets	1	6
Privy Closets to Pail Closets	3	4
Waste Water Closets to Fresh Water Closets...	33	97
Pail Closets to Fresh Water Closets	1	5
Number of Trough Closets to Fresh Water Closets	12	8
Houses at which moveable ashbins have been Substituted for fixed receptacles	48	383

During the year four additional Fresh Water Closets were provided in existing properties, and 35 fixed in new houses.

Number of Waste Water Closets found choked 147

It is hoped to accelerate the rate of conversions from Waste Water Closets to Fresh Water Closets.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

Total number of visits (including Housing) during 1949	2209
Number of Re-visits	990
„ Inspections of Houses	542
„ „ „ Cowsheds (to October, 1949)	278
„ „ „ Dairies	249
„ „ „ Schools	9
„ „ „ for Rats and Mice	74
„ „ „ of Slaughterhouses	40
„ Visits re Drainage and Sewerage	292
„ „ „ Vermin	6
„ Inspections of Workshops, Factories	57
„ „ „ Restaurants, Kitchens and Bakehouses, etc.	61
„ „ „ Shops	216
„ „ „ Caravans	36
„ „ „ re Water Supplies	34
„ Visits re Home and Domestic Helps	33
„ „ „ Foodstuffs	197
„ „ „ Tips and Refuse Disposal, etc.	221
„ „ „ Infectious Diseases	29
„ Rooms Disinfected	21
„ Complaints Investigated	340
„ Visits re Milk Sampling	53
„ „ „ Ministry of Works Licences	129
„ Miscellaneous Visits	147
„ Visits to Baths	94

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Periodical inspections when possible have been made of the Rivers and Streams for sources of pollution. No serious pollutions were found.

SHOPS ACTS.

Supervision of Shops to prevent breach of the provisions of the above Acts is exercised. During the year a complete inspection of all premises coming within the above Acts was made.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

In 1943 the Infestation Order came into force, and the Ministry of Food set up a Departmental Directorate of Infestation Control. This order reinforced and extended the provisions of the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919, giving Local Authorities some financial assistance, but principally effecting a nation-wide attack by scientific methods on rats and mice.

During the year under review investigation and disinfestation has proceeded steadily.

Two complete treatments of the Council's sewers, tips and buildings have been undertaken. The results corroborate the findings of previous years, namely, that the degree of infestation in the sewers is exceedingly small and occurs at storm overflows. This is probably due to the sewers being mainly of small bore and nearly always running at $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ bore.

SEWER TREATMENT.

Treat- ment. No.	Bait and poison used.	No. of Manholes in system.	No. of Manholes baited.	Test baits.	No. of poison takes.	Estimated kill.
1	Bread Mash and arsenious oxide.	205	104	15	13	73
2	Sausage rusks and Zinc Phosphide.	215	132	20	21	130
		420	236	35	34	203

Visits are also paid to private properties, business premises, farms, etc., for the purpose of eradicating rats and mice.

In addition to the foregoing the following shews the treatments carried out on the Tips—

TREATMENT OF TIPS.

Treatment No.	Bait and poison used.	No. of Points Baited.	Estimated kill.
1	Bread Mash and arsenious oxide.	79	180
2	Sausage rusks and Zinc Phosphide.	93	170
		172	350

SUMMARY OF RATS KILLED.

Sewer	203
Properties	153
Tips	350
Totals	706

Re-treatments will be vigorously proceeded with.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Sixteen smoke observations were taken during the year. Where excessive emissions of industrial smoke have been noticed the premises were visited, and advice given to stokers. The chief cause at the present time is the use of unsuitable and poor quality fuel, combined with poor methods of stoking.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

PART I. OF THE ACT.

1.—**INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises. (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register. (3)	Number of		
			Inspections. (4)	Written notices. (5)	Occupiers prosecuted. (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	10	11	4	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	70	46	10	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	80	57	14	—

2.—**CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.**

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases".)

Particulars. (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Found. (3)	Remedied. (4)	Number of cases in which defects were found. Referred.		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (7)
				To H.M. Inspector. (5)	By H.M. Inspector. (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—						
(a) Insufficient	9	5	3	—	3	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	5	4	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	60	14	11	—	5	—

Notice of one outworker has been received from Bolton Corporation Health Department during 1949 under the provisions of the Factory Act. These premises are suitable for the purpose, and are visited periodically.

TENTS AND VANS, ETC., USED AS DWELLINGS.

During the year twenty-four applications were made under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to station Moveable Dwellings in the area and twenty-one applications were granted subject to conditions.

In addition an application was made to licence a site for the use of the Bolton Catholic Boys' Club, which was granted.

Fourteen of the Caravans were stationed in this area previous to 1949 and the applications were for renewal of the licence. Seven were first applications to station a movable dwelling in the district.

Applications to station a double-decker bus and two other types of structures were refused.

Inspections are made from time to time to ascertain if the conditions of Licences are being complied with.

There were no cases of Infectious Disease notified or detected in any tent or van during the year.

Several Camping Sites have been utilized for short periods (Girl Guides and Scouts, etc.), and the sites so used are kept under observation.

THE SCHOOLS.

There are nine Schools in the District which are periodically inspected. Water supply to all these Schools is satisfactory but the Closet accommodation to five of the nine Schools is in need of conversion from the obsolete type at present in use to that of the modern Fresh Water Closets.

These unsatisfactory arrangements with the Council's approval, have been brought to the notice of the Education Authorities concerned.

It is hoped to amend the unsatisfactory accommodation at the remaining five schools. At the time of writing work is in progress at one school to effect this.

The Milk delivered to the Schools during 1949 was either Tuberculin Tested or Pasteurised.

No school was closed during the year for infectious diseases.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

There is a Public Swimming Bath at Egerton owned by the Turton Urban District Council.

The Bath has a capacity of 24,000 gallons which is filtered and chlorinated every four hours by Bells Filtration Plant.

Alterations, repairs and decorations have been carried out which have greatly improved the conditions.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The collection and disposal of household and trade refuse is now carried out entirely by direct labour.

Labour problems which were acute during the year and the very necessary collection of salvage retard the collection of refuse causing a worse result than would normally be achieved.

The abolition of ashpits, which are insanitary relics of the past, receives constant attention. During the year 90 Bins have been provided in lieu of fixed receptacles.

Trade refuse from shops, works, etc., is collected for a nominal sum.

Refuse is tipped at certain sites in the district, such as disused quarries. These sites are fairly well removed from the nearest habitations, but are becoming tipped up and in this connection it has been found necessary to extend Belmont Tip and obtain Ousel Nest Quarry as a tipping site.

The following is a summary of the work done during the year 1949 shewing a comparison for the years 1948 and 1949—

	1948.		1949.
Dry Ashpits emptied	1861	.....	1306
Privy Ashpits emptied	975	.....	871
Cesspools	26	.....	12
Ashbins emptied	78125	.....	72152
Pails emptied	10571	.....	11899
Trade Waste—			
Bins (Fish, Offal, etc.)	120	.....	135
Miscellaneous Waste removed	24 tons.	.....	26 tons.
Total Refuse Tipped	3463 tons.	.....	3356 tons.

SALVAGE OF MATERIALS.

The continued demand for raw materials has rendered the salvage of all useable materials of the utmost importance, and in order to meet this urgent and vital need, every endeavour is now being made to recover, reclaim and market salvage materials without cost to the rate fund.

How far this is successful will be seen from the following figures—

Material.	Weight collected.			Sold for.		
	Tons.	cwts.	qrs.	£	s.	d.
Paper	50	15	0	279	8	4
Kitchen Waste	55	16	3	155	3	3
Bones	3	11	3	19	11	1
Miscellaneous	0	16	1	7	11	6
	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	110	19	3	461	14	2
Expenses .....			.....	149	19	2
				—	—	—
Credit Balance ...			.....	311	15	0
				—	—	—

When it is borne in mind that the waste paper collection was severely curtailed due to a slump in prices, it is hoped that next year's figures, providing the market for salvage remains, will exceed those shown above.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

MILK, DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies Act, 1944, and the Milk (Special Designation) Act, 1949, became operative in the 1st October, 1949.

These Acts transferred the responsibility of clean milk production and the granting of designated milk licences from the local authority to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Local Authorities are left with the distribution side of milk only, including sampling for chemical and bacteriological examination.

Turton has always been a large milk producing area and the Health Committee have rightly encouraged the highest standards in dairy and cowshed construction and clean milk production which has been helped by regular and personal contact with the farmers concerned by your Inspector.

The figures in the following tables only apply to the 30th September, 1949.

In the appended tables, particulars of the location of these farms, etc., are included in the Wards in which they are situated—

DAIRIES.

Wards.	No. on Register in 1948.	No. newly registered.	No. discon- tinued in 1949.	No. on Register in 1949.
Belmont	15	0	0	15
Bradshaw	32	0	0	32
Bromley Cross ...	6	0	0	6
Chapelton	9	0	0	9
Eagley	4	0	0	4
Edgworth	50	3	0	53
Egerton	14	0	0	14
Total	130	3	0	133

Number of Retail Producers	54
„ Wholesale Producers	36
„ Wholesale Producers who also sell retail	43
„ Wholesale Traders (not Producers)	0
„ Retail Producers under Accredited Licence	5
„ Wholesale Producers under Accredited Licence	1
„ Tuberculin Tested Producers	3
„ Retail Traders (not Producers)	5

COWSHEDS.

	No. on Register in 1948.	No. newly registered.	No. Discon- tinued in 1949.	No. on Register in 1949.	No. of Cows registered for.
Belmont	22	0	0	22	256
Bradshaw	64	0	0	64	734
Bromley Cross	11	0	0	11	163
Chapelton	13	0	0	13	180
Eagley	6	0	0	6	98
Edgworth	71	3	0	74	794
Egerton	22	0	0	22	205
Total	209	3	0	212	2430

The following statement indicates the action which has been taken under the Milk and Dairies Order, and the results which have been attained.

Number of Inspections of Cowsheds	278
„ Inspections of Dairies	249
„ Cowsheds limewashed	450
„ Dairies found defective	14
„ Cowshed drains repaired	21
„ Cowshed drains reconstructed	2
„ Cowsheds provided with additional light and ventilation	9
„ Cowsheds repaired	24
„ New Shippons provided	3
„ Preliminary Notices served on Tenants	4
„ Preliminary Notices served on Owners	1
„ Preliminary Notices abated by Tenants	4
„ Preliminary Notices abated by Owners	1
„ New Water supplies provided	7

During the year there was one case of Infectious Disease notified of a person engaged in the production or handling of Milk. This person ceased handling milk and subsequently found another occupation. There were two cases of Anthrax confirmed on milk-producing farms. The milk from these farms was boiled for several days and the shippens thoroughly disinfected and cleansed.

MILK SUPPLY.

TUBERCLE BACILLI IN MILK.

During the year there were two cases of Tubercle Bacilli found in the herds of two farms.

In accordance with Part IV. of the Agriculture Act, 1937, the information was passed to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for clinical investigation. As a result two cows were removed from these herds and dealt with under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938. Group samples of milk were taken from the remainder of the herds which were found to be negative.

I am indebted to Mr. G. Hiller, Chief Sanitary Inspector, Bolton, for the information that seven samples of milk obtained in the Bolton Area from Farmers producing in Turton, were examined for B. Tuberculosis. One was found to be positive and the necessary action as stated above was carried out.

SCHOOL MILK.

Eight samples of milk were taken from the schools in the Turton area. These samples were examined and found to be free from B. Tuberculosis.

All the milk supplied to the schools is either tuberculin tested or pasteurised.

MILK PRODUCED UNDER THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS.

Eighteen samples of milk were taken from five farms licensed for the production of Accredited Milk and three for the production of Tuberculin Tested Milk, the herds totalling 256 animals.

Each of these samples was found to be free from Tuberculosis, and satisfied the Methylene Blue Test, and the Colliform Baccillus Test.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There are eight Private Slaughter Houses in the district, which are distributed in the following Wards—

Bradshaw.	Chapeltown.	Eagley.	Edgworth.	Egerton.	Total.
1	1	1	4	1	8

Owing to provisions of the Livestock (Restriction of Slaughtering) Order, 1940, no slaughtering now takes place, with the exception of cases where Licences are granted by the Ministry of Food for the slaughtering of livestock for Home Consumption.

The National Children's Homes are granted facilities for slaughter of fat-stock of their own fattening for consumption in the Institution, and in accordance with these conditions, the following animals were slaughtered and inspected—

Beasts	15	Pigs	3
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In addition the following were slaughtered by individuals on licence under the Live Stock (Restriction of Slaughtering) Order, 1940.

Pigs	204	Sheep	4
Calves	2		

The following was condemned as being unfit for human consumption—

Meat	374 lbs.	Fish	7 lbs.
Edible Offal ...	51 lbs.		

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED.

3 tins Fruit.	112 lbs. Chocolate Bars.
6 tins Unsweetened Milk.	120 tins Miscellaneous Foods.
6 tins Salmon.	2 lbs. Butter.
8 tins Mustard.	4½ lbs. Bacon.
56 lbs. Cooking Fat.	

During the year 192 visits were made to Butchers' Shops, Slaughter Houses and Food Preparation premises which were found to be kept in conformity with Regulations.

SAMPLING, FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

A total of 81 samples were obtained, 37 being of Milk and the 44 others comprising—

2 Dates.	1 Prunes.
3 Self-raising Flour.	1 Sultanas.
3 Fish Paste.	1 Raisins.
3 Cooking Fat.	3 Gravy Browning.
1 Salt Iodised.	3 Aspirin.
2 Margarine.	3 Salt.
1 Grape Fruit Crush.	2 Butter.
1 Dry Ginger Ale.	1 Lemonade.
2 Glanser's Salt.	1 Orange Crush.
2 Ice Cream.	2 Cheese.
3 Sauce.	1 Sedlitze Powder.
2 Beef Paste.	

All the above samples were certified by the County Analyst to be genuine.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Activities during the year in this important sphere of public health work have again been curtailed due to the national emergency. The table below gives particulars of action taken—

Number of Houses of all Classes	3787
„ Working Class dwellings	3564
„ Working Class dwellings erected	25
„ House over £20 Rateable Value erected	10

1.—Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

1. A. Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health and Housing Acts	542
B. Number of inspections made for this purpose	570
2. A. Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Regulations	0
B. Number of inspections made for the purpose	0
3. Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	14
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	520

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	498
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3.—Action under Statutory Power during the year—

A.	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	9
2.	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notice—	
A.	By Owners	9
B.	By Local Authority in default of Owner	0
B.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts —	
1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	35
2.	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notice—	
A.	By Owners	11
B.	By Local Authority in default of Owner	3
C.	Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	14
2.	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	5
D.	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
1.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
2.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

4.—Housing Act, 1936, Part IV. Overcrowding.

A.	1. Number of Houses overcrowded at end of year	9
	2. Number of Families dwelling therein	10
	3. Number of Persons dwelling therein	62
B.	Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year	0
C.	1. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1
	2. Number of persons concerned in such cases	5

INSECT PESTS.

Insect pests found in houses and other premises include many species. Advice and help in methods of control and extermination are given and insecticide, including D.D.T. is available.

DISINFESTATION. (BED BUGS.)

Particulars of action taken in 1949—

No. of houses found to be infested ...	(a) Council houses	2
	(b) Other houses	3
No. of houses disinfested ...	(a) Council houses	2
	(b) Other houses	3
Methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed-bugs	Stripping of wallpaper, thoroughly spraying walls and ceilings with insecticide. Repeated after seven days: bedsteads, springs, etc., treated with insecticide. All defective plaster hacked off and made good.	

- State name of fumigant or insecticide
used and efficiency thereof Killgercide containing 5 per cent. D.D.T.
- Method employed for ensuring that
belongings of tenants are free from
vermin before removed to Council
houses Inspection of belongings and spraying as
above if such were required.
- Is work of disinfestation carried out by
Local Authority or by a Contractor? (a) By Council on their own property.
- (b) In other cases, owner or occupier is
provided with material at cost or the
work is done on signed order by the
Council workmen. Advice is always
given by the Sanitary Inspector.

CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS.

The chief requirements of the district are in my opinion—

- (1) The vital need for the provision of new houses, and in addition a planned policy of the clearance of the totally unfit house.
- (2) A reduction in the number of private water supplies, and the extended provision of towns' mains within the area.
- (3) The conversion of pail and waste water closets, the abolition of ashpits, and the extension of the sewers within the district.
- (4) The conversion of waste water closets at schools.
- (5) The provision of public conveniences at suitable points within the district.
- (6) The paving and making good of back streets and unmade roads.

